

NATIONAL MEDIA FAIL TO HOLD PRESIDENT ACCOUNTABLE

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, recently, a woman named Doris asked President Obama why his health care legislation includes more taxes when, as she put it, "we are overtaxed as it is."

Here's what The Wall Street Journal had to say about the President's 17-minute, 2,500-word answer, and the media's failure to hold him accountable:

[The President's] filibuster had only served to avoid addressing her concern. He never explained why his health care bill ended up raising taxes on those making under \$200,000 a year—a violation of his explicit 2008 campaign pledge.

President Obama is clearly avoiding any forum where he can be pinned down with tough questions.

So far, Washington journalists have been quite passive in letting the White House choose the terms of its interaction with the public.

Would a conservative president get such an obliging ride from the normally aggressive Washington press corps? Probably not.

The national media should hold the President accountable, not give him a free pass.

HONORING THE MIGNONI SISTERS

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Carol Mignoni Ferguson, Rosemarie Mignoni Szczucki, and Ann Mignoni Mundy.

The Mignoni family name has been synonymous with quality jewelry in Bristol, Pennsylvania for over 60 years. They have been intertwined with the Irish community for almost as many years, with their love for Irish jewelry and art on clear display in their Bristol store.

Recently, the Mignoni sisters were again recognized by the Irish community for their contribution to the culture, the tradition, and the general welfare of Irish heritage. They truly embody the ideals of the Irish community, and their charity and support of friends and family inspire those around them.

These three sisters led the Bucks County St. Patrick's Day parade on March 13, 2010, as exemplary members of the Bucks County community and as representatives of the Irish spirit. Long after the parade is over, they will continue to be leaders throughout the community, and their love and compassion will continue to be a beacon in the 8th district of Pennsylvania.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Carol, Ann, and Rose Mignoni for their incredible service to our community. I am honored to serve as their Congressman and humbled to call them my friends.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF FAIRVIEW PARK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the 100th anniversary of the City of Fairview Park. Residents, business owners and city officials have occasion to celebrate the rich history of this vibrant community.

One hundred years ago, the land southwest of Cleveland was a combination of farmland and woodland. Some of the earliest settlers of the area include families with surnames that are still recognizable today: Mastick, Anthony, Bassett, Eaton and Spencer.

Independence appears to be the main catalyst for the creation of Fairview Park (originally Fairview Village). Many residents of the Fairview-Parkview area of the newly incorporated Village of Rocky River wanted their own community. Seventy-five families submitted petitions in less than a year. On September 10, 1910, Fairview Village received its official charter.

As the city grew, Fairview Park continued to be an important part of the Cleveland-area community. Truck farming, a way of life for many families living outside Cleveland, strengthened ties between communities. Throughout the growing season, farmers would "truck" their produce and poultry to the city of Cleveland to sell at local markets such as the popular West Side Market.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of the people of the City of Fairview Park, Ohio as they celebrate their 100th anniversary. The city has overcome challenges and ensured progress over the last century and it has always remained an integral part of the Greater Cleveland community.

HONORING JAMES B. VENTANTONIO, ESQ.

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize James B. Ventantonio, the Somerset County Business Partnership's 60th Annual Outstanding Citizen of the Year. Mr. Ventantonio will be presented with this award on May 5, 2010, in Martinsville, New Jersey.

The Somerset County Business Partnership is comprised of talented community leaders, volunteers and employees dedicated to developing a thriving economy and enhancing Somerset County's quality of life. Based in Bridgewater, New Jersey, the SCBP is committed to providing leadership on key business and community initiatives, assuring the opportunity to attain business and personal goals, and achieving results that benefit and assure prosperity in Somerset County.

Mr. Ventantonio has held a leadership position in nearly every quality of life initiative in Somerset County for more than two decades. He served as Chair of a number of organiza-

tions in Somerset County, including the Somerset County Chamber of Commerce, the Blue Ribbon Task Force on the Somerset County Ballpark, and the Somerset County Business Partnership. Mr. Ventantonio continues to be a member of numerous non-profit and municipal boards and agencies. Mr. Ventantonio began his career with the Somerset/Sussex Legal Services, and continues to be a staunch supporter of providing legal services for those who cannot afford representation.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope my colleagues will join me in honoring Mr. James B. Ventantonio for his commitment to my constituency, as well as congratulate him on receiving the 60th Annual Outstanding Citizen Award.

HONORING THE RED CROSS

HON. ANH "JOSEPH" CAO

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. CAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the American Red Cross. Since its founding in 1881 by Clara Barton, the American Red Cross has provided assistance and comfort to communities where disaster has struck.

Every year, at home and abroad, one in five Americans is in some way touched by the Red Cross. My district, which includes New Orleans, was one of the hardest hit by Hurricane Katrina.

The American Red Cross' response was immediate and 20 times bigger than any previous response effort. While they provided sheltering, hot meals, and assistance in purchasing essential items such as food and clothing, they also provided something much greater: compassion, promise, and hope. And, for that I am extremely grateful.

In addition to responding to disasters, the Red Cross also helps prepare individuals to lead safe and healthy lives by offering babysitting, safety, and CPR classes and coordinating blood donations.

Madam Speaker, whether it is an earthquake or a single family home fire, a call for blood or a call for help, the American Red Cross will be there.

I ask that my colleagues join me in applauding the dedication and efforts of the American Red Cross staff and volunteers and in celebrating March as American Red Cross Month.

INTRODUCING WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON HAITI ACT OF 2010

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the White House Conference on Haiti Act of 2010. This important piece of legislation would call on the President of the United States to convene a White House Conference on Haiti before the end of this calendar year.

As we are all well aware, this past January, a 7.0 magnitude earthquake rocked the already struggling nation of Haiti. Approximately